



NEWSLETTER

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PURCHASED
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for members of the Carolina Bird Club, Inc., ornithological society of the Carolinas

Volume 37 [5]

October, 1991

Special Issue

Additional Special Field Trips Announced

Carolina Bird Club members responded enthusiastically to the weekend field trip to Mattamuskeet, Pungo and Phelps Lakes scheduled for November 17, 1991. It was the first in a series of supplementary field trips proposed as a

result of action taken by the Executive Committee at its 1990 planning retreat.

This special issue of the Newsletter contains a description of an additional weekend trip which has been planned for 1992. Please note that these field trips are

in addition to the regular meetings which will be held at the usual times. Special registration procedures apply. Food, accommodations and transportation are the responsibility of the registrant. Carpooling should be arranged in advance.

N.C. Outer Banks & Pamlico Sound

Leaders: John Fussell & John Wright
Limit: 30 participants **Cost:** \$15

Itinerary: Begin at 7:00 a.m. at the parking lot at the south end of Bonner Bridge over Oregon Inlet. We will examine the rocky groin/jetty area here early for Purple Sandpiper and eiders. We'll scan the inlet's numerous pilings for Great Cormorant. This is also a good time to scan the ocean for early morning activity. In addition to the usual gulls, terns and Gannets, there is always the possibility of something rare, such as Black-legged Kittiwake, Little Gull or even one of the alcids.

The rest of the morning we'll work the impoundments of Bodie Island and Pea Island NWR for swans, ducks, geese (Snows, Canadas, . . . could we hope for a Ross?) and other water birds. With a little luck we should also see Merlin and Peregrine Falcon here.

In the afternoon we will work out way south to Cape Hatteras Point, near Buxton, where the best variety of gulls is usually to be found. Here we will most likely see all the usual gulls plus the rarer Lesser Black-backed Gull which has been regular here for several years. With luck one of the rare white-winged gulls will make an appearance.

By late afternoon we will have moved

south again by free ferry across to Ocracoke Island, where we will spend the night. On Sunday we will take the early (6:30 a.m.) two-and-a-half-hour ferry ride across Pamlico sound to Swanquarter. This crossing, with the rising sun at our backs, is great for viewing the flocks of Red-breasted Mergansers, loons, Brant, Surf and Black Scoters, Oldsquaw, and other diving ducks which are found in the Pamlico at this time of year. This is the best way to see scoters and Oldsquaw close-up.

Lodging for Friday night is plentiful in Manteo (The Elizabethan, 919-473-2101 or Duke of Dare, 919-473-2175) and Nags Head (Armada, 1-800-334-3302 or Quality Inn Sea Oatel, 919-441-7191). Lodging for Saturday night at Ocracoke is limited. We should all plan to stay at The Island Inn (919-928-4351), which will give us a very attractive group rate. It is also the site of our Saturday evening meal. Be sure to make your reservations early at The Island Inn. Make sure to mention that you are with the Carolina Bird Club field trip group.

Reservations are also strongly recommended for the Ocracoke to Swanquarter ferry crossing. A reservation may be made **no more than** thirty days in advance (call **after** 12/12/91) by calling the Ocracoke departure terminal

Saturday & Sunday January 11-12, 1992

(919-928-3841). Cost of the ferry trip is \$10 for automobiles.

Registration Procedure:

- (1) Call John Wright (evenings, 919-756-5139) to "sign up" and obtain any additional information about the trip.
- (2) Send registration form with payment to CBC Headquarters Secretary.



Teri Hatcher of Charlotte, NC enjoys her first Carolina Bird Club meeting. See article on page 3.

The Traveling Birdwatcher

CBC Members Offer Travel Opportunities

Winter Pelagic Trips Planned

Brian Patteson is planning two winter pelagic trips from Virginia Beach, VA on February 1 (2) and February 8 (9), 1992. These are Saturday trips with a Sunday weather date. The February, 1991 trip saw Manx Shearwaters, Red Phalaropes, two Great Skuas, kittiwakes, puffins, Razorbills, and 290 Dovekies. The cost is \$75. Write

Brian, PO Box 125, Amherst, VA 24521 or call before 10 p.m. (804) 933-4456 for reservations or more information.



Travel With Simon

Simon R. B. Thompson, CBC Secretary and globe-trotting naturalist, is leading trips to St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands (December 3-10, 1991), the Amazon basin of Peru (January 26-February 2 and July 18-26, 1992, and Costa Rica (February 18-29, 1992). For more information contact Simon at FENCE, 500 Hunting Country Road, Tryon, NC 28782, (704) 859-9021.

Winter Meeting Set For Charleston Area

The winter issue of the *Newsletter* announcing the winter meeting tends to get lost in the blizzard of Christmas cards which arrive in December. In order for members to be able to make their plans to attend the meeting well in the advance of the holiday rush, Lex Glover and his team have put forth the extra effort to make available the information necessary for "early bird" registration.

The meeting is set for the very popular Charleston area January 31-February 2, 1992. The Carolina Bird Club last met in Charleston in the fall of 1987; well before the destruction of Hurricane Hugo. Many familiar birding areas will still show the effects of that storm.

Headquarters for the meeting will be the Ramada Inn in Mt. Pleasant, SC. The room rate is \$32.00 plus tax for 1-4 persons. A reservation form is provided on page 5 of the *Newsletter*. The Ramada is located on Highway 17/Georgetown Highway approximately 1/4 mile north of the Cooper River Bridge. If traveling north from the Cooper River Bridge, it will be on your right at the first light. Registration will begin at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, January 31 at the motel.

Since the motel does not have a meeting room large enough to accommodate our group, the meetings Friday and Saturday nights will be at Wando High School

which is nearby. Maps will be provided in the registration packets.

Steve Compton, Charleston's Christmas Bird Count compiler, has been working hard planning field trips for the meeting. Two special field trips will require advance reservations using the form provided on page 5. An all day trip to Bulls Island is scheduled for Saturday, February 1. There will be a \$15 charge for the ferry, and you will need to take a lunch and drinks. A boat trip in the Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge is scheduled for Sunday, February 2. The trip will take approximately half a day, and the cost is \$25. The deadline to reserve space on both trips is **January 15**.

Cape Romain NWR is about 20 miles northeast of Charleston. This 60,000-acre tract, one of the outstanding wildlife refuges in the east, occupies a 20 mile segment of the Atlantic coast and embraces a fascinating expanse of sea islands, salt marshes, intricate coastal waterways, and long sandy beaches. It has a large wintering population of shorebirds and waterfowl. Gulls, comorants, and Horned Grebes winter along the ocean beaches, while Brown Pelicans, Black Skimmers, and Peregrine Falcons are occasional winter residents.

Other field trips are planned to

Huntington Beach State Park, Santee Coastal Reserve, Ion Swamp, Magnolia Gardens, Bear Island Wildlife Management Area, as well as some local areas in and around Charleston. Several will be all day trips requiring a lunch.

If you have any questions about the winter meeting plans, please call Lex Glover at (803) 438-1703.

Forsythe Offers Class

Dennis M. Forsythe of the Department of Biology, The Citadel, is teaching a class in ornithology during the spring semester. Offered on Thursday night and Saturday morning, the class is open to the public. If interested, contact Dr. Forsythe at (803) 795-3996 (home) or (803) 792-7877 (office).

Project FeederWatch

You can be a part of Project Feeder Watch, a joint venture of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and Long Point Bird Observatory. To register for the 1991-92 season beginning in November send \$12 check payable to Cornell Lab of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Rd, Ithaca, NY 14850.

Kirkland's Warbler Reported at Fall Meeting

"Did anyone see anything that I didn't call?" Ricky Davis had just completed the species countdown at the Carolina Bird Club fall meeting on the North Carolina Outer Banks. Several notable species including Little Gull, Black-billed Cuckoo, and Curlew Sandpiper had been reported, but traditionally any real "goodies" are saved until last for dramatic effect. "**Kirkland's Warbler**" was the reply to Ricky's question. At first there was an embarrassed silence. What novice birder could be so unknowingly bold as to call such a rarity? But then we saw that the person handing a completed rare bird sighting report to a sputtering Harry LeGrand was Chat editor emeritus Eloise Potter. Excited birders forgot how tired they were from a day of tramping the dikes of Pea Island NWR and began to rearrange Sunday departure plans to include Ocracoke Island where the bird had been sighted.

The day had not started out so auspiciously. A strong northeast wind had scrubbed the pelagic trip, and the general impression was that there were fewer birds around than had been seen by early arrivals on Friday. The rarities and high count total of 197 species were largely the work of a few expert birders. However, inexperienced birders among the 162 meeting registrants got good looks at several less common birds, including an immature Lark Sparrow that hopped around on the ground beside the parking lot at North Pond. Field trip leaders **Ricky Davis, Harry LeGrand, Simon Thompson, Taylor Piephoff, John Fussell, Frances Needham, Evelyn Dabbs** and **Russ Tyndall** did any outstanding job under less than ideal conditions.

Other factors contributed to a highly successful meeting. CBC President, **John Wright**, and Executive Committee Member-at-Large for Eastern North Carolina, **Ricky Davis**, arranged for meeting facilities, field trips, and program. **Paula Wright** enlisted the help of fellow Greenville-River Park North Bird Club members, **Mary Paulson, Stephanie Hudak, Grace Smith, Pam Pappas** and **Russ Tyndall** to provide refreshments at registration. **John and Libba Watson** handled the



Bonnie Strawser (R), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Mark Sawyer, volunteer, display a Pea Island NWR T-shirt sold by the Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society.

details of registration with the assistance of **Paula Wright**. A special feature of registration for this meeting was a sales table set up by the Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society. Profits from the sales of T-shirts, patches, pins, etc., are used by the Society to support projects in the Alligator River, Pea Island, and Currituck National Wildlife Refuges. During the evening meeting, **Bonnie Strawser** of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service outlined the work of the Society. She made special mention of their work in upgrading and renovating the North Pond Trail on Pea Island NWR (**Kris Kristoffersen**, Secretary of the Society, mowed a half mile of this trail in preparation for the CBC meeting) where they are in the process of building four handicap accessible observation structures. Three of the structures will feature permanently mounted, vandal and weather proof binocular spotting scopes. Bonnie encouraged CBC members also to join the Society as a way of giving something back to the refuges. Further information can be obtained by writing the Coastal Wildlife Refuge Society, P.O. Box 1808, Manteo, NC 27954.

Although the cancellation of the pelagic trip prevented our topping 200 species,

we got to see plenty of pelagic birds Saturday evening. **Brian Patteson**, a regular leader of pelagic trips out of Virginia Beach, spoke on pelagic birding and showed slides of the pelagic birds one could see or hope to see off the Virginia and North Carolina coasts. The presentation was so realistic that Brian became seasick about halfway through and **Mike Tove** had to take over until he could recover.

Executive Committee action reported during the meeting included the appointment of **Robin Carter** as chairman of the SC records committee and reappointment of **Harry LeGrand** as chairman of the NC records committee. Harry introduced a Rare Bird Sighting Report form that had been designed for reporting sightings to the NC committee. The Executive Committee also set the date of the spring, 1992 meeting for May 8-10 in Boone, NC.

You never know where these CBC meetings are going to lead. An interesting sidelight to the exchange with which this article began was the fact that Ricky Davis got "turned on" to birding as a "chubby fifth grader" when Eloise Potter took him to his first CBC meeting. It was in the fall at Nags Head 20 years ago.

Fall Meeting Check List

Pied-billed Grebe, N. Gannet, Brown Pelican, **Great Comorant**, Double-crested Cormorant, Am. Bittern, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Little Blue Heron, Tricolored Heron, Cattle Egret, Green-backed Heron, Black-crowned Night-Heron, Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, White Ibis, Glossy Ibis, Snow Goose, Canada Goose, Wood Duck, Green-winged Teal, Am. Black Duck, Mallard, N. Pintail, Blue-winged Teal, N. Shoveler, Gadwall, **Eurasian Wigeon**, Am. Wigeon, Black Scoter, Red-breasted Merganser, Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Bald Eagle, N. Harrier, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Am. Kestrel, Merlin, Peregrine Falcon, Clapper Rail, King Rail, Virginia Rail, Sora, Com. Moorhen, Am. Coot, Black-bellied Plover, Lesser Golden-Plover, Semipalmated Plover, Piping Plover, Killdeer, Am. Oystercatcher, Am. Avocet, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Solitary Sandpiper, Willet, Spotted Sandpiper, Whimbrel, Hudsonian Godwit, Marbled Godwit, Rudy Turnstone, Red Knot, Sanderling, Semipalmated Sandpiper, W. Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, White-rumped Sandpiper, Pectorial Sandpiper, Dunlin, **Curlew Sandpiper**, Stilt Sandpiper, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Short-billed Dowitcher, Long-billed Dowitcher, Com. Snipe, Laughing Gull, **Little Gull**, Bonaparte's Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Herring Gull, **Lesser Black-backed Gull**, Great Black-backed Gull, Caspian Tern, Royal Tern, Sandwich Tern, Common Tern, Forster's Tern, Black Tern, Black Skimmer, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, **Black-billed Cuckoo**, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, E. Screech-Owl, Great Horned Owl, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, N. Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher**, Least Flycatcher, E. Phoebe, W. Kingbird, E. Kingbird, Purple Martin, Tree Swallow, Bank Swallow, Barn Swallow, Blue Jay, Am. Crow, Fish Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Brown-headed Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Carolina Wren, House Wren, Winter Wren, Marsh Wren, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, E.

Bluebird, Swainson's Thrush, Am. Robin, Gray Catbird, N. Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, Cedar Waxwing, Eur. Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Solitary Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, **Philadelphia Vireo**, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue-winged Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, **Nashville Warbler**, N. Parula, Yellow Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Magnolia Warber, Cape May Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Pine Warbler, **Kirkland's Warbler**, Prarie Warbler, Palm Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, Am. Redstart, Ovenbird, N. Waterthrush, Kentucky Warbler, **Oporornis warbler, sp.**, Com. Yellowthroat, Wilson's Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat, Summer Tanager, Scarlet Tanager, N. Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Blue Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Rufus-sided Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, **Clay-colored Sparrow**, Field Sparrow, **Lark Sparrow**, Savannah Sparrow, Sharp-tailed Sparrow, Seaside Sparrow, Song Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Bobolink, Red-winged Blackbird, E. Meadowlark, Boat-tailed Grackle, Com. Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, N. Oriole, House Finch, **Evening Grosbeak**, House Sparrow. Total 197 species.

Nominating Committee Named

CBC president, John Wright, has announced the appointment of a nominating committee to submit Executive Committee nominees to the annual business meeting to be held in Boone, NC on May 9, 1992. Offices to be filled are president, secretary, treasurer (one year terms); vice-president for WNC (three year term); and members-at-large for ENC, WNC and SC (two year terms). Incumbents in the offices of secretary, treasurer and vice-president for WNC are not eligible for reelection.

Send your recommendations for any of these officers to one of the members of the nomination committee: **Peter Worthington**, chairman, 716 N. Almond Dr., Simpsonville, SC 29681,

(803) 967-4183; **Heathy Walker**, 1047 Ardsley Road, Charlotte, NC 28207, (704) 334-7154, **Ricky Davis**, 608 Smallwood Dr., Rocky Mount, NC 27804, (919) 443-0276.

South Carolina Christmas Bird Counts Scheduled

Listed below are South Carolina Christmas Bird Counts for which the information on date and compiler was complete at the time of publication. Contact the compiler if you wish to participate.

ACE Basin.....12/15...David Chamberlain
884-0019
Pete Laurie
762-5076
Carolina Sandhills NWR
12/30.....Bill Hilton, Jr.
684-0255
Charleston.....12/29.....Steve Compton
557-4816
Columbia.....12/14.....Robin Carter
782-8820
Greenville.....12/21.....Pete Worthington
' 967-4183
Hilton Head...12/14.....Berry Loyes
671-3537
Litchfield/Pawleys Island
12/31.....Chris Marsh
236-1799
Long Cane.....12/14.....Steve Patterson,
Jr. 894-3344
McClellanville..12/15....Perry Nugent
556-3841
Santee NWR....12/28.....Lex Glover
438-1703
Spartanburg.....12/14.....Lyle Campbell
585-1228
York/Rock Hill..12/21...Bill Hilton, Jr.
684-0255

Deceased Member

The Carolina Bird Club notes with regret the death of **William McIntosh, Jr.** of Summerville, South Carolina.

CBC Rare Bird Alert

(704) 332-BIRD

Registration Form
CBC Weekend Field Trip to NC Outer Banks & Pamlico Sound
January 11 & 12, 1992

Name(s) _____
(list each participant)
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ _____ for _____ participants at \$15 each. I have called the trip leader, John Wright at (919) 756-5139 to ensure that space is available.

Mail with check to **Carolina Bird Club, Inc.**, PO Box 27647, Raleigh, NC 27611

Ramada Inn Reservation Form
Carolina Bird Club
Winter Meeting, January 31-February 2, 1992

Name _____ Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Rooms (1-4 occupants) \$32.00 plus tax.

Please reserve _____ room(s) at \$32.00 per night. My check for the first night's lodging is enclosed. I will arrive _____ and depart _____.

Mail with deposit to **Ramada Inn**, 301 Johnnie Dobbs Blvd., Mt. Pleasant, SC 29464 or call (803) 884-14411 .

Registration Form
CBC Winter Meeting, January 31-February 2, 1992

Name(s) _____
(list each name for name tags)
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ _____ for _____ member registrations at \$4 each and _____ nonmember registrations at \$5 each. Registration at meeting will be \$5 for members and \$6 for nonmembers.

Mail with check to **Carolina Bird Club, Inc.**, PO Box 27647, Raleigh, NC 27611

Bulls Island & Cape Romain NWR Reservation Form
Saturday & Sunday, February 1 & 2, 1992

Name _____
(list each participant)
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$ _____ to reserve _____ place(s) at \$15 each for the Bulls Island ferry February 1, and _____ places(s) at \$25 each for the Cape Romain NWR boat trip.

Please make check payable to **Steve Compton** and mail to 162 Gordon Street, Charleston, SC 29403. Tel. (803) 577-4816.

Welcome New Members

Mary B. Atkeson
Greenville, NC

M/M Jim Hendrix
Murphy, NC

Jerry Nagel
Johnson City, TN

M/M Guyte M. Cotton
New Bern, NC

James & Nancy Jordon
Winston-Salem, NC

Taylor Piephoff
Charlotte, N

William & Suzanne Davis
Raleigh, NC

Smith & Rhonda Lingerfelt
Shelby, NC

Jack & Patsy Polmer
Shelby, NC

John Finnegan
Raleigh, NC

Robert T. McSherry
Tryon, NC

James & Cathy Stewart
Hillsborough, NC

Wallace & Delores Foutch
Kernersville, NC

Nell Moore
Richlands, NC

Mark B. Thompson
Raleigh, NC

Grup Catala D'Anellament
Museu de Zoologia
Barcelona, Spain

Neil & Pat Moore
Buxton, NC

Membership Application and Order Form

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Tel. () _____ () _____
(home) (business)

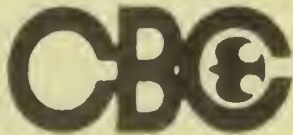
ENTER/RENEW MEMBERSHIP AS INDICATED

SEND MATERIALS INDICATED

☐ Individual (\$12)	☐ Life (\$200)	☐ CBC Cloth arm patch \$1.50 ea., \$1.25 ea. in quantity
☐ Family (\$15)	☐ Patron (\$ 50)	☐ CBC Decals (water type) 75c ea., 50c ea. in quantity
☐ Student (\$ 6)		☐ Daily Checklists 10/\$1.00, 25/\$1.25, 50/\$2.50, 75/\$3.75
☐ Affiliate Club (\$15)		100/\$5.00
☐ Library/Institution (\$15)	Make check payable to Carolina Bird Club, Inc. and mail to PO Box 27647, Raleigh, NC 27611	

CBC Newsletter is published quarterly by Carolina Bird Club, Inc., the ornithological society of the Carolinas, with headquarters at Raleigh, NC. CBC is a nonprofit corporation, founded in 1937, with membership open to anyone interested in birds, natural history and conservation. Members are encouraged to submit items of interest to CBC Newsletter, Clyde Smith, Editor, 2615 Wells Avenue, Raleigh, NC 27608.

CAROLINA BIRD CLUB, INC.



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